

Exiles Give Word On Castro Clash

MIAMI (AP) — Exiles said Wednesday night that commandos shot it out with Fidel Castro forces after infiltrating men and arms into the island early Tuesday.

"The encounter lasted 10 or 12 minutes," said a joint-communicue by Commandos L and the Revolutionary Recovery Insurrectional Movement, two anti-Castro groups that have joined forces.

During this encounter the exiles fired 42 rounds from 20-millimeter cannons and 450 to 500 rounds from rifles and automatic weapons, the communique said.

It said the battle "ended when enemy fire ceased." There was no mention of casualties on either side.

The exile expedition was attacked near Bay of Cadiz Key off northern Cuba, the report said.

Afterward, the exile boat headed back toward its undisclosed base, the communique added. Since it was low on fuel it shifted its route to the Florida keys, the communique said.

The 30-foot arms-laden boat was seized by U. S. authorities at Sugar Loaf Key Tuesday. Four Cubans and an American, who identified himself as Don Baker of Fort Lauderdale, were held and questioned.

The communique did not give details of the infiltration operation. Explosives and radios were reported

among equipment left inside Cuba.

A spokesman said other arms, which were found aboard the boat, were retained for use in case of attack.

A plane with four bombs that exiles said were to be dropped on "an important military objective" in Cuba coinciding with opening of the Washington OAS meeting was seized by U. S. authorities Monday.

The exile colony geared its activity largely to the Washington meeting, hoping for severe sanctions against the Fidel Castro regime.

Dozens of exile leaders, including Manuel Ray, foiled by U. S. authorities recently in a second attempt to reach Cuba to rebuild the anti-Castro underground, were reported in Washington. They were reported carrying on a massive OAS lobby.

As exiles marched in Washington urging maximum penalties for Castro, a group of Miami demonstrated in front of the Mexican consulate. Mexico has remained a neutral attitude with respect to Cuba.

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